

CLAIMS

What is Claimed is:

1 1. A method of making a purchase comprising:
2 activating, in a receiver connected to a presentation device, a purchase screen having
3 at least one field, wherein the receiver is configured to:
4 receive broadcast signals through an input mechanism ; and
5 enable the presentation device to display the broadcast signals;
6 the activation enabling the purchase screen to be displayed on the presentation
7 device;
8 receiving purchase information in the at least one field into the receiver from a user;
9 establishing a secure electronic connection, using a communication mechanism of
10 the receiver that is different from the input mechanism, with a vendor;
11 electronically transmitting the purchase information from the receiver through the
12 secure electronic connection to the vendor; and
13 receiving a confirmation number from the vendor into the receiver.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the activation is received from a user using a
2 remote control.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the purchase information comprises:
2 a type of credit card;
3 a credit card number; and
4 an expiration date.

1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein the purchase information comprises
2 merchandise information for merchandise to be purchased from the vendor.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the purchase information comprises service
2 information for a service to be purchased from the vendor.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the service is for television programming.

1 7. The method of claim 5 wherein the service is for an activation of a television
2 programming package.

1 8. The method of claim 5 further comprising:
2 receiving, in the receiver, authorization for the service from the vendor; and
3 configuring the receiver to allow the display of the authorized services.

1 9. The method of claim 1 further comprising verifying that all of the required
2 purchase information has been received.

1 10. The method of claim 1 wherein establishing a secure electronic connection
2 comprises:
3 obtaining a dialtone through a modem connected to the receiver;
4 dialing a phone number corresponding to the vendor selected, wherein the phone
5 number is stored in the receiver; and
6 establishing a secure connection with a computer system of the vendor at the phone
7 number dialed.

1 11. The method of claim 1 further comprising causing one or more onscreen
2 messages to be displayed that indicate actions being taken by the receiver.

1 12. The method of claim 1 further comprising storing the confirmation number
2 into a purchase history screen in the receiver that allows a customer to view the purchase
3 information.

1 13. The method of claim 1 wherein the vendor is a credit card company.

1 14. The method of claim 1 wherein the receiver is an integrated receiver/decoder
2 (IRD).

1 15. The method of claim 1 wherein the presentation device is a television.

1 16. A system for purchasing comprising:

2 a receiver configured to:

3 receive broadcast signals through an input mechanism

4 enable a presentation device to display the broadcast signals;

5 receive activation of a purchase screen having at least one field;

6 enable the purchase screen to be displayed on the presentation device;

7 receive purchase information in the at least one field from a user;

8 establish a secure electronic connection, using a communication mechanism
9 that is different from the input mechanism, with a vendor;

10 electronically transmit the purchase information through the secure
11 electronic connection to the vendor; and

12 receive a confirmation number from the vendor.

1 17. The system of claim 16 wherein the receiver is configured to receive the
2 activation from a user using a remote control.

1 18. The system of claim 16 wherein the purchase information comprises:

2 a type of credit card;

3 a credit card number; and

4 an expiration date.

1 19. The system of claim 16 wherein the purchase information comprises
2 merchandise information for merchandise to be purchased from the vendor.

1 20. The system of claim 16 wherein the purchase information comprises service
2 information for a service to be purchased from the vendor.

1 21. The system of claim 20 wherein the service is for television programming.

1 22. The system of claim 20 wherein the service is for an activation of a television
2 programming package.

1 23. The system of claim 20, the receiver further configured to:
2 receive authorization for the service from the vendor; and
3 allow the display of the authorized services.

1 24. The system of claim 16, the receiver further configured to verify that all of
2 the required purchase information has been received.

1 25. The system of claim 16 wherein the receiver is configured to establish a
2 secure electronic connection by:
3 obtaining a dialtone through a modem connected to the receiver;
4 dialing a phone number corresponding to the vendor selected, wherein the phone
5 number is stored in the receiver; and
6 establishing a secure connection with a computer system of the vendor at the phone
7 number dialed.

1 26. The system of claim 16, the receiver further configured to cause one or more
2 onscreen messages to be displayed that indicate actions being taken by the receiver.

1 27. The system of claim 16, the receiver further configured to store the
2 confirmation number into a purchase history screen in the receiver that allows a customer to
3 view the purchase information.

1 28. The system of claim 16 wherein the vendor is a credit card company.

1 29. The system of claim 16 wherein the receiver is an integrated receiver/decoder
2 (IRD).

1 30. The system of claim 16 wherein the presentation device is a television.

1 31. An article of manufacture for purchasing comprising:
2 means for a receiver connected to a presentation device to receive broadcast signals
3 through an input mechanism;
4 means for the receiver to enable the presentation device to display the broadcast
5 signals;
6 means for the receiver to receive activation of a purchase screen having at least one
7 field;
8 means for the activation to enable the purchase screen to be displayed on the
9 presentation device;
10 means for the receiver to receive purchase information for the one or more fields
11 from a user;
12 means for the receiver to establish a secure electronic connection, using a
13 communication mechanism that is different from the input mechanism, with a vendor;
14 means for the receiver to electronically transmit the purchase information through
15 the secure electronic connection to the vendor; and
16 means for the receiver to receive a confirmation number from the vendor.

1 32. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the activation is received
2 from a user using a remote control.

1 33. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the purchase information
2 comprises:
3 a type of credit card;
4 a credit card number; and
5 an expiration date.

1 34. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the purchase information
2 comprises merchandise information for merchandise to be purchased from the vendor.

1 35. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the purchase information
2 comprises service information for a service to be purchased from the vendor.

1 36. The article of manufacture of claim 35 wherein the service is for television
2 programming.

1 37. The article of manufacture of claim 35 wherein the service is for an activation
2 of a television programming package.

1 38. The article of manufacture of claim 35 further comprising:
2 means for the receiver to receive authorization for the service from the vendor; and
3 means for the receiver to allow the display of the authorized services.

1 39. The article of manufacture of claim 31 further comprising means for
2 verifying that all of the required purchase information has been received.

1 40. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the means for the receiver to
2 establish a secure electronic connection comprises:
3 means for the receiver to obtain a dialtone through a modem connected to the
4 receiver;
5 means for the receiver to dial a phone number corresponding to the vendor selected,
6 wherein the phone number is stored in the receiver; and
7 means for the receiver to establish a secure connection with a computer system of
8 the vendor at the phone number dialed.

1 41. The article of manufacture of claim 31 further comprising means for the
2 receiver to cause one or more onscreen messages to be displayed that indicate actions being
3 taken by the receiver.

1 42. The article of manufacture of claim 31 further comprising means for the
2 receiver to store the confirmation number into a purchase history screen in the receiver that
3 allows a customer to view the purchase information.

1 43. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the vendor is a credit card
2 company.

1 44. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the receiver is an integrated
2 receiver/decoder (IRD).

1 45. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the presentation device is a
2 television.

44. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the receiver is an integrated receiver/decoder (IRD).

45. The article of manufacture of claim 31 wherein the presentation device is a television.